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PATENT

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1/20/98

Date

Gail Wardwell

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

PERSSON et al.

Serial No.: 08/844,215

Group Art Unit: 1815

Filing Date: April 17, 1997

Examiner: M. Zeman

Title: HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES SPECIFIC FOR
HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) E2 ANTIGEN

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 25, 1997. The Examiner therein required election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-26, 81-85, 87-90, 92, 93, 95-98, 103-106, 108, 109 and 111-115 drawn to recombinant human monoclonal antibodies, and their uses as vaccines and in treatments;

Group II, claims 27-30, 86, 91, 94, 99-102, 107, 110 and 116, drawn to single chain antibodies (ScFv) and methods of their use in treatment and vaccines; and

Group III, claims 31-80, drawn to isolated nucleic acids, expression vectors containing those nucleic acids, for expression in eukaryotic and prokaryotic hosts, and methods of expressing a protein from them.

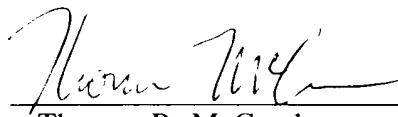
Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group III, claims 31-80, without traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 USC §121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application.

Please direct all further communications in this case to:

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Respectfully submitted,

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